



## **Texas Department of Public Safety Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report**

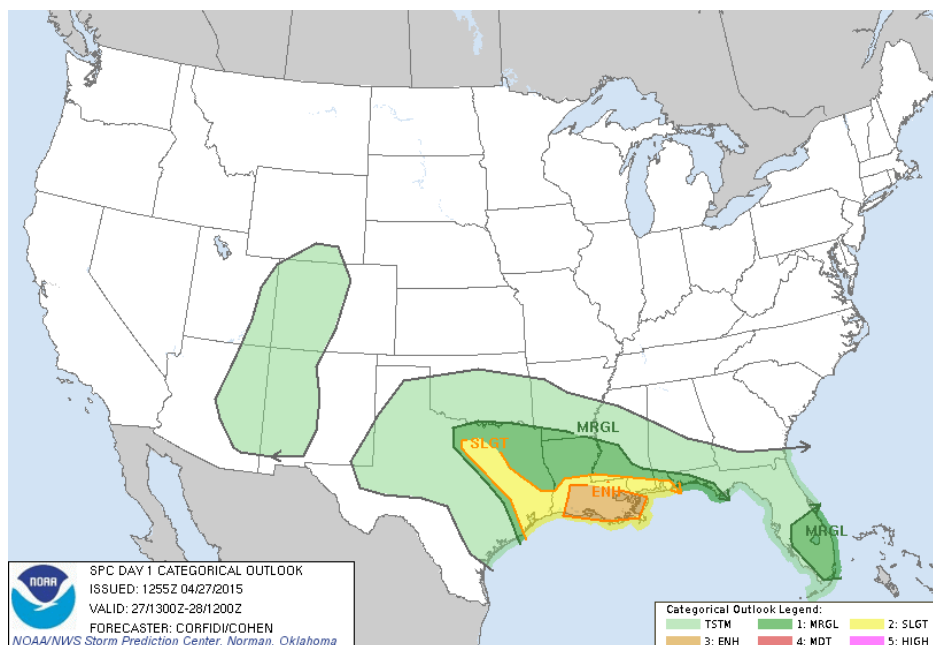
---

<b>Event Name</b>	26-27 April Severe Weather Event
<b>Date</b>	April 27, 2015
<b>Time</b>	1400
<b>Operational Period</b>	04/27/2015
<b>Report Number</b>	SITREP #1

<b>Regions Affected</b>	
<b>DPS Regions Affected</b>	1,2,5 and 6
<b>DDC's Active</b>	

### **STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:**

Overnight and into early morning multiple storm systems moved across South Central, Central and North Central Texas. Twenty-six Tornado Warnings were issued with twenty sightings of tornadoes in Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Regions 1, 2, 5 and 6. High winds toppled trees, downed powerlines and caused damage to homes and road closures throughout the state, as the storm systems moved southwestward to northeastward along the I-35 Corridor. The storm systems continue to move through Southeast Texas. Power outages are widespread but gradually being restored. Numerous secondary roads are closed in impacted areas. At this time no injuries or fatalities have been reported. Preliminary damage assessments are ongoing in impacted areas. The threat of tornadoes, additional showers and thunderstorms will develop over North and Central Texas through this afternoon. Lightning will be a concern with these storms. Additionally, there is a small potential for severe weather with a few of these storms; however, the threat is nowhere near as great as it was yesterday. The primary threat will be large hail with any storms that do develop.



## OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:

1. Protect life and property.
2. Support rapid & effective response.
3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
4. Maintain communication with impacted local jurisdictions.

## REGION 1 (Includes DDCs 4, 5, 6, and 22)

Tornadoes were reported in Rio Vista, Glen Rose and near Cleburne. High winds resulted in damage to several homes, downed power lines and trees. Golfball-sized and baseball-sized hail were also reported in Erath County. Many roads in Johnson County were reported closed due to inundated debris, fallen trees and downed power lines. Johnson County also reported a delayed start or cancellations for several schools. The heavy rainfall caused subsequent flash flooding across roadways, damaging high winds to vehicles, homes and businesses. Several high-water rescues were conducted in southern Johnson County for residents stranded in their flooded homes. A TXDPS helicopter conducted assessments of the three tornado paths from just west of Rio Vista eastward to the Town of Grandview.



**Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16 Houston, 16 Texas City, 16 Conroe, and DDC Pierce)**

Tornado warnings were issued for Grimes, Walker, Washington and Montgomery Counties. A tornado touched down in Grimes County causing major damage to four homes. Heavy rain is forecast as the storms continue an easterly path. Power outages were reported in the Bryan area as the storm continued its path. Several road closures have been reported due to flooding, downed trees and debris. TxDOT is assisting with cleanup operations. Several schools reported delayed openings and closings due to power outages. Severe weather also moved through DDCs 14 and 15 late last night and early this morning, which necessitated the issuance of Severe Thunderstorm Warnings and Tornado Warnings. As of 8:00 AM this morning, all warnings were cancelled.

**DDC 14 Lufkin:** Jasper County Courthouse delayed opening until 10:00 AM. Minor damage was reported to homes in Jasper County due to fallen trees. Most of central and south Jasper County has vegetative debris and trees down. It is possible that a tornado may have touched down however, it is not confirmed.

**DDC 15 Beaumont:** Power outages are affecting over 8,300 customers in Hardin, Jefferson, and Orange Counties. About 90% of Jasper/Newton Counties' customers are without power.

**Hardin County:** Kountze ISD delayed opening until 8:30 AM.

**Jasper County:** Jasper ISD delayed opening until 10:00 AM. State Highway (SH) 62 in Buna is closed due to downed trees.

**Sabine County:** Brookeland ISD cancelled classes for today.

**Tyler County:** Spurger ISD delayed opening for one hour. Colmesneil and Woodville ISDs delayed opening until 10:00 AM.

**Walker County:** Walker County sustained severe storm damage early this morning, due to strong winds and rain. Many farm-to-market (FM) roads were closed initially due to downed power lines, and trees strewn across roadways. All are now open. Secondary roads in Spring Lake Subdivision and Elkins Lake Subdivision also were impacted by downed power lines and trees. Preliminary damage assessments are underway with Walker County Commissioner chainsaw crews clearing secondary roads. TxDOT is clearing state-maintained FM roads. Since 5:00 AM this morning, power crews from Sam Houston Electric Co-op, Entergy, and CenterPoint have been working to restore power to their respective customers. As of 8:25 AM this morning, 41,550 customers were without power. Due to impact to school bus routes, downed power lines and trees, Huntsville ISD is closed. Walker County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) has Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) reporting damages and road closures. Huntsville Fire Department (FD) is on standby to respond in Elkins Lake due to damage to several homes and power outages. New Waverly ISD Junior High and Middle Schools are closed due to loss of power. Because of the possibility of additional severe weather this afternoon and evening, Montgomery County CERT is issuing tarps to cover damaged roofs in the Elkins Lake and Spring Lake Subdivisions.

### **Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)**

Tornado warnings were issued along with reports of severe thunderstorm activities. Low water crossings were affected due to high water.

### **Region 4 (Includes DDCs 8, 9, and 10)**

There was a report of a tornado that traveled northeastward, 8 miles north of Junction in Kimble County, but no damage was reported.

### **Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)**

There were several reports of large hail and tornadic activity throughout Region 5. A report of a tornado touchdown with no significant damage was received for Coleman County but a tornado has not been confirmed.

### **Region 6 (Includes DDCs 11, 23, 12, 18, and 17)**

Tornado touchdowns and high wind damages have been reported in Hill and Bosque Counties, with some road closures due to flooding and ongoing debris removal. Multiple power outages have been reported. Minor damages were reported in Bosque County, including structural damage to a barn. The Bosque County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was activated for coordination and response. TxDOT is assisting with debris removal and utility companies are working on restoring power.

### **Infrastructure:**

**Power Outages:** (Power companies reporting > 100 customers without power: Numbers continue to change rapidly as restoration continues).

Region	District	Power Company	County	Customers Effected
1/6	Multiple	ONCOR	Multiple Counties	17557
2	Multiple	Center Point	Multiple Counties	962
1	06	SWEPCO	Multiple Counties	675
2	Multiple	Entergy, Texas	Multiple Counties	39,681
6	16	AEP Texas	Multiple Counties	>1000
1/6	11/23/06	United Cooperative Services	Multiple Counties	5395
2/6	13	Bluebonnet Co-op	Multiple Counties	2587

**Damage Assessments:** These are preliminary numbers as damage assessments are ongoing.

Type	Affected	Minor	Major	Destroyed
Government				
Business			2	
Multi-Family				
Single-Family			4	
Manufactured Homes			1	

**Disaster Declarations/Disaster Summary Outlines:** Newton County due to flooding.

**DDCs/EOCs Activated:**

Bosque County  
 Johnson County  
 Jasper/Newton/Sabine Counties (network is currently down)

**Water/Waste Water Outages:** The public water system in the town of Grandview, Johnson County is currently not operational due to power outage. Restoration of this system continues. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is assisting impacted local jurisdictions in assessing their water/waster water systems. As of this report, no other systems have been reported as impacted. Assessments continue.

**Communications Outages:** Network server to all Jasper County facilities are down.

**Roadways:** Numerous secondary roads closed or are flooded. Expect additional reports of roadways affected by flooding and fallen debris.

Disaster District	County	Road	Status
11/23	Bosque	FM56	Debris
04	Johnson	City of Rio Vista	Debris

**Airport Closures/Delays:** None reported.

**School Closures/Delayed Opening:**

Johnson, Jasper, San Jacinto, Tyler, Hardin and Orange Counties reported 1- 2 hour delays; Grimes, Newton, Liberty, Polk and Walker Counties reported cancellation of classes.

**Government Closures:** Jasper County Courthouse

**Fatalities/Mass Casualties/Injuries:** None reported.

**Shelters Activated:**

Ellis County – Maypearl High School (Due to street flooding)

Erath County – Texas Southern University, Stephenville City Library, Thompson Student Center Gym

## **RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS**

**Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS):** Disaster District personnel as well as Texas Division of Emergency Management Regional State and District Coordinators continue to maintain contact and assist as needed.

**Texas Parks & Wildlife Department (TPWD):** TPWD has two Game Wardens assisting with damage assessments in Rio Vista, Johnson County. Several other counties have Wardens out observing only.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** Assisting local jurisdictions with roadway obstructions (downed trees and debris removal) in regions 1,2,5 and 6

**Voluntary Agencies Active in Disasters (VOADs):** VOADs (The Salvation Army American Red Cross Texas Baptist Men, and Southern Baptists of Texas) are responding to the recent series of storms by providing canteens, tarps, shelters and chainsaw crews to assess damages and assist local jurisdictions.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** Assisting in identifying public water and waste water systems that may have sustained damage in the impacted areas.

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The SOC is at currently at Level IV (Normal Conditions). The Texas Division of Emergency Management is closely monitoring the situation and is prepared to coordinate resource support as required.

**The four levels of SOC activation are:**

- Level I (Emergency Conditions)
- Level II (Escalated Response Conditions)
- Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)
- Level IV (Normal Conditions)

*This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: [www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem](http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/dem).*

**W. Nim Kidd, CEM, TEM**

*Chief*

Texas Division of Emergency Management

*Assistant Director*

Texas Homeland Security

Texas Department of Public Safety